

Summer Holidays

Tisha B'Av

Tisha B'Av, the ninth day of the Jewish month of Av, is a day of mourning that commemorates the destruction of the first and second Temples in Jerusalem and the beginning of the Jewish exile from the land of Israel. Other catastrophes also associated with Tisha B'Av are the suppression of the Bar Kochba rebellion (135 C.E.) and the expulsion of the Jews from England (1290 C.E.) and Spain (1492 C.E.). Traditionally, Tisha B'Av is marked with a day of fasting and mourning. CSZ will observe the holiday of Tisha B'Av on Saturday, July 28 at 7 pm.

Tu B'Av

Tu B'Av, the fifteenth day of the month of Av, is a joyous midsummer festival in direct contrast to Tisha B'Av. The Talmud states, "There are no days as festive to Israel as those of Yom Kippur and the 15th of Av. The daughters of Israel used to dress in white and go out to the fields to dance..." (Ta'anit 4:8). This minor holiday serves as a transition to move us from the mourning of Tisha B'Av to the renewal of Elul and the New Year. This year, Tu B'Av falls on Saturday, August 4. All CSZ members are invited to mark this festival of love and redemption by wearing all white at our regular Friday evening service on August 3.

High Holidays 5762

It is only July, yet we are looking forward to, and planning for, the coming High Holidays. This year we will continue to use the Herbst Theater for the majority of High Holiday services.

A High Holiday packet containing information on services, tickets, children's programming, childcare and classes will be mailed to all CSZ members in mid-summer. Non-CSZ members who would like to join us for the holidays are invited to contact the office after August 1 in order to request a High Holiday packet.

We encourage members of the congregation to participate in our services. If you would like to chant from the Torah, sing with the Ensemble, lead a reading or sound the shofar, please let us know by filling out the enclosed form and returning it to the CSZ office by July 20. A schedule for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur appears in the box to the right.

High Holiday services at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav also require an enormous amount of volunteer effort in the areas of logistics, greeting, ushering, oneg, break fast, children's programming and discussion groups. Please consider beginning the new year with the mitzvah of helping in one of these areas. If you can offer an hour or two, contact Lea Salem in the CSZ office at lsalem@shaarzahav.org or at 415/861-6932.

Monday, September 17
Erev Rosh Hashanah

Tuesday, September 18
First Day Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 19
Second Day Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 26
Kol Nidre

Thursday, September 27
Yom Kippur

Tisha B'Av and The Book of Lamentations

Taught by Rebecca Gutterman

Rebecca Gutterman is a third-year rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College in New York, who brings her passion for writing, performance and teaching to this work. While living in the Bay Area after college, she studied with A Traveling Jewish Theatre (ATJT) and BRAVA! for Women in the Arts. This summer she returns to San Francisco to participate in ATJT's

Apprenticeship Company. Rebecca is excited to have the privilege of working with CSZ this summer, having first been introduced to the community 15 years ago through her family, Bob Gutterman and Paul Cohen.

Rebecca will be conducting a 3-session course on themes in the Book of Lamentations in preparation for Tisha B'Av. In particular we'll explore the tradition and value of communal mourning within Judaism.

Dates: Tuesdays, July 17, 24 and 31

Time: 7-8:30 pm

Cost: Members: Free /

Non-Members: \$10 per class

Please contact CSZ Program Director, Dahlia Gross at cszdahlia@yhoo.com or 415/575-4961 to reserve your spot.

Tisha B'Av Service:

Saturday

July 28, 7 pm

Please Be in Touch With Me

I am eager to be in touch with all members of the CSZ family whenever there are occasions of joy or sadness in your lives. When there is a death in the family, please call me as soon as possible. We very much want to be there with you at a time of grief.

Rabbi Camille Shira Angel



Rabbi Angel

Can you think of someone you can't stand? How do you treat that person? Our Torah offers us some guidelines in one of my favorite summer Torah portions, the Parasha of Balak. In the story, we meet Balak, the King of the Moabites, who desires to place a curse upon the Israelites and drive them out from the land. In order to fulfill his intention, Balak calls upon the wicked prophet Bilaam and his amazing talking donkey.

Bilaam is described in Talmudic literature as being jealous, arrogant and greedy. Moreover, the Talmud accuses him of bestiality. Apparently his donkey was more than a vehicle used by day. By night, the rabbis imagined the donkey as an object of sexual pleasure.

Nevertheless, the Torah indicates how solicitous God was of the honor of Bilaam, a despicable person who wanted to curse the Jewish people. The donkey, who refused to do his master's bidding and who spoke - miraculously - to the heathen prophet Bilaam, this donkey was then killed by God.

So, why was the donkey killed? What had it done to deserve death? Rabbi Chaim Shmulevitz, the great Mussar teacher of the Mirrer Yeshiva in Jerusalem, explains that God killed the donkey because had the donkey lived, it would have been a reminder of Bilaam's weakness and failure. The donkey was killed to preserve Bilaam's honor.

Similarly, the Torah has a very strange rule regarding a person who commits bestiality. The person is liable for the death penalty and so is the animal. The Talmud asks: "If the person sinned, where did the animal sin?" The animal has no free will. It cannot be presumed to have sinned." The Talmud answers: "The animal is killed so that it should not pass through the marketplace and people will say this is the animal responsible for that person's failure."

continued on page 10

CSZ Celebrates Kol Yad Success

Members and friends of Sha'ar Zahav gathered on Sunday, June 3 to celebrate the beginning of a new tradition in the congregation: The Kol Yad (Every Hand) Fundraising Campaign.



Ron Edelman, Sara Haber, Lisa Katz, Nicole Bloom, Beth Sousa



Drew Parker-Rose, Lisa Katz, Richard Weiner, Marc Wernick, Ami Zusman, Sara Haber

In this inaugural year of the Kol Yad campaign, in which members and friends were invited to pledge the equivalent of one day of work, more than 70 members (and several non-members) have already responded, demonstrating their generosity by pledging a total of over \$14,600. (A complete list of Kol Yad donors through June 3 appears on page 11) This means that we have already achieved 97.5% of our ambitious \$15,000 fundraising goal for this inaugural campaign, and pledges continue to come in. We fully expect to exceed our goal, and it is not too late for you to help. If you have not yet pledged, there is still time: Kol Yad pledges for this year will be accepted until the end of June.

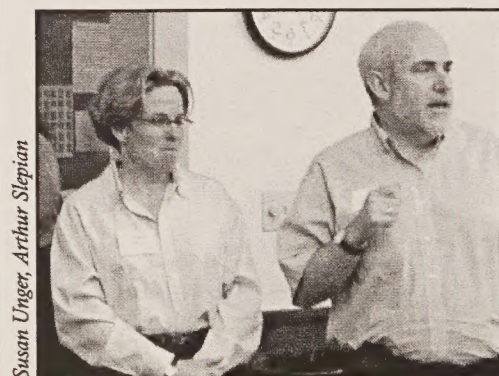
Part of what has made Kol Yad a success is the way in which donors can personalize their pledge. On the Kol

Yad pledge form, donors were asked to describe their pledge. Here is a sample of what was sent in:

- One member, a teacher, wrote, "School is out on Friday, but I'll be getting paid for that day anyway, so I'll be pledging that day of pay to Kol Yad. And I'll be spending the day at a retreat for Jews involved with social justice."
- Another member wrote, "I'll work an extra evening shift at the store to fund my Kol Yad pledge."
- A non-member submitted the following: "I'd been thinking for a while about how fortunate I am, and how I'd like to share my good fortune by donating a day's pay to an organization or cause in need. Then I came to services at Sha'ar Zahav and saw the Kol Yad flyer, and I knew this was 'bashert'."



Leslie Kane, Michael Sarid



Susan Unger, Arthur Slepian

At the Kol Yad celebration, attendees enjoyed good food and singing led by Michael Sarid and Leslie Kane. Arthur Slepian and Susan Unger of the Fundraising Committee thanked all the Kol Yad donors for the wonderful outpouring of generosity that the program has generated in its first year.

Singles Mingle With a Twinkle

Close to seventy single GLBT Jews recently noshed and schmoozed at the home of Howard Steiermann during "Havdalah Under the Stars: Meet That Special Someone With a Twinkle in Their Eye."



Sharyn Saslowsky and Julia Friedlander strategize about opening lines
Photo by Marc Wernick

This event was very different than the "100 Dates in One Night," but equally fun. "We are trying hard to make CSZ events more haimish (welcoming) and hip than the dreadful singles events we all heard about growing up," noted Marc Wernick, the self-appointed shadchan (matchmaker) of CSZ. Co-organizer Rob Daroff noted that the event was particularly successful at helping to form friendships and camaraderie for future events. In fact, Ann Aptaker designed a survey to help gauge the interest in future events, and the response has been overwhelmingly positive.

The synagogue will be planning future Jewish GLBT singles events, including the next "100 Dates In One Night." "Regardless of whether you volunteer to plan the event or help with set-up, clean-up or other event details, volunteering has obvious 'special advantages' in this case," notes Program Director Dahlia Gross. If you would like to become more involved with the nascent Singles Havurah, please contact Dahlia at the CSZ office.

In addition to the people noted above who planned the event, CSZ would like to thank Alan Gordon for leading the short and sweet Havdalah service and Richard Brand for helping with set-up and clean-up.



Old and new friends make introduction: Joseph Held, Rob Tat, Jason Feinberg and Neil Shorestein - Photo by Marc Wernick

If you (or your single friends) are interested in being on the mailing list, please contact either Marc Wernick (415/928-7883, mhwernick@aol.com) or Dahlia Gross (CSZDahlia@yahoo.com, 415/575-4962).

Israel GLBT leader looks forward to a "reclaiming" of Judaism

By Jake Wirschafter

The worsening situation in Israel is already having an impact on the resources available to the Association of Gay Men, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgender People (the Aguda), according to the organization's chairman, Etai Pinkas.

In an interview with the *Gaily Forward* conducted on the same day as the terrorist attack on the disco at Tel Aviv's Dolphinarium killing 20 Israeli teenagers, Pinkas described how the shift in Israel's state budget away from localized spending on social welfare towards military priorities has already hit the organization. But even with reduced resources, he said, "We are going forward with an event for Gay Pride Day that is dedicated to gathering Palestinian and Israeli queer activists."

The make-up of the current Israeli government, heavily dependent on coalition partners from the Orthodox political parties, threatens to further undermine the Aguda's aims of mainstreaming the organization's goals of providing support for GLBT youth and expanding AIDS education. Despite the harsh political climate however, the Aguda is forging ahead with a program of outreach and support that extends to the "Other Israel" beyond gay-friendly Tel Aviv.

"Our emphasis in new programs is on places like Be'er Sheva and Kiryat Shemona. We need to give these young people an alternative place where it is less difficult to be gay or lesbian. Many of the young people in the periphery are the children of Russian and Ethiopian immigrants. We are expanding our informational material in Russian and starting new youth groups for first-generation Israelis," Pinkas said.

When informed that members of Sha'ar Zahav were looking for new ways to engage the congregation with the lives of GLBT people in Israel, Pinkas stated that this would mean much to the leadership of the Aguda.

"We were so impressed by our visit to your congregation," he said. "We met your rabbi on the High Holidays and we couldn't believe that such a rabbi existed!"

"We said to ourselves that we would like to explore creating a kind of Sha'ar Zahav experience here. It is time for GLBT people here to reclaim Judaism for themselves and we think you are the people who can help us do this the best," Pinkas continued.

"We need your financial support. But we would also like very much that the next time a delegation of GLBT people from San Francisco comes here, Rabbi Angel can be on the trip and lead services here."

You will soon be receiving information from CSZ as to how you can support the Aguda by becoming an International Member. In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like further information on the Aguda, please contact me at sfjake@hotmail.com. Also, please consider joining CSZ's Israel Havurah. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 24, 6:30 pm at CSZ.

Relaxation & Revelation: Sha'ar Zahav Pre-Shavuot Family Retreat

The drive through the rolling green hills of Petaluma on the way to the Relaxation & Revelation Sha'ar Zahav Pre-Shavuot Family Retreat was marked with singing, excitement, laughter, sightings of hawks, cows, horses, a rabbit, sun, wind and winding roads. But the real fun began as more and more families began converging at the dining hall for an amazing weekend celebrating Shabbat and building community together.

beautiful service! Later in the day, families could be found making glorious tie-dye shirts, playing softball, navigating a ropes course, snoozing, talking, playing and everyone's favorite... water balloons with the rabbi! Throughout the late afternoon, tots made body tracings and a stuffed "Mt. Sinai" in a project with Jeni and Dafna; Kadimah-age kids studied the Book of Ruth with Phyllis and Riqi, and did an improv play called "The Wedding" about the many mar-



Deirdre Bernard - Pearl with Rose Katz and others. Photo by Rabbi Camille Angel.

Close to 80 Sha'ar Zahavniks, 25 of them children, tots and babies, came to Walker Creek Ranch on May 18-20.

Kids and adults mixed for activities all weekend. On Friday we had a late night of Kabbalat Shabbat services that blended people, bingo, Israeli dancing, a late-night hike, guacamole-making and sweet dreams. On Saturday morning, families gathered for an outdoor hiking service, with stops along the way for singing and praying, "Modah ani l'fanecha" alongside baby lambs, "Brucha sh'amrah" on a wooden bridge over the creek, "Sh'ma" rounds in a sandy embankment and a silent prayer walk for the Amidah, until we climbed "Mt. Sinai" for an amazing view and rested after such a

riages that take place in the Book of Ruth; and Ora and Rabbi Angel led adults in a program about resting as a prerequisite for revelation.

We all enjoyed a beautiful Havdalah under the stars, and a campfire full of singing, guitar playing, stories and the long-awaited s'mores.

Later, with kids tucked in, adults could be found eating chocolate fondue and shmoozing into the night. The morning came, and with it, delicious blintzes for breakfast (traditional for Sha-



Anna Desmond-Bernsteins and Raena Frohlich. Photo by Rabbi Camille Angel.

vuot) and an uplifting class on parenting, led by Phyllis, that many attended. The weekend culminated in a family education art project where we made a copper Torah breast-plate to decorate our Torah back at Sha'ar Zahav. The breast-plate is a stunning representation of the 12 sons and the daughter of Jacob, inspired by what people saw on the weekend.

The committee of Ora Prochovnik, Ilana Bernstein, Dafna Wu, Jeni Markowitz and Riqi Kosovske want to thank the following people who shlepped, prepared and contributed many gifts of the heart throughout the weekend: Dev Felder Noily, Tiela Chalmers, Howard Herman, Sarita Groisser, Hershey Hirschkop, Nicole Bloom, Sue Swigart, Tamar Gershon, Phyllis Mintzer, Fran Frohlich, Greta Miskatel, Deirdre Bernard-Pearl, Barbara Cymrot, Kathy McHenry, Lisa Katz, Carolyn Pines, Debbie Carr, Karen Segal and Rabbi Camille Shira Angel as well as all the children and adults who participated!



Kirsten Gustavson and son Benjamin Gustavson-Scharf. Photo by Rabbi Camille Angel.

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Note that articles reflect the opinions of their author and not necessarily those of the congregation or its committees.

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- **Design and Layout:** Kerri Schiff
- **Printing:** Genesis Printing & Graphics
- **Distribution:** Mail It Right

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ads and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California, 94103, marked: attention Forward advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

July/August 2001 Volume 24, Issue 10.



Top Five Reasons to Come to the "Welcome" Dinner

1. *No dishes to clean up.*
2. *You might meet someone interesting.*
3. *Great excuse to leave the office at a reasonable time.*
4. *There are not one, but two, dinners being announced in this newsletter.*
5. *You have been meaning to check it out for over a year now.*

Please join the Keshet (Connection) Committee for the monthly "Welcome" pre-shabbat dinner on the third Friday of every month. This informal "pay-your-own-way" gathering is a way for prospective members, new members and seasoned members to get to know each other in a more informal and relaxed setting.

Here are the details for both July and August events:

July 20 - Leticia's (2247 Market St.)

August 17 - House of Chen (335 Noe St.)

As is our minhag (custom), we gather at CSZ at 6:15 pm and then head to the restaurant at 6:30 pm.

Please RSVP to either Marc Wernick (415/928-7883, mhwernick@aol.com) or the office (415/861-6932, office@shaarzahav.org). We look forward to having you join us.

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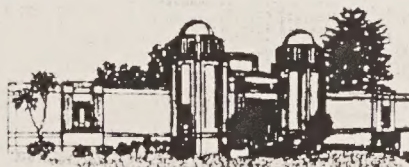
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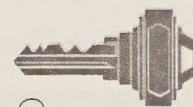
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Step 3

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Percentage of all commissions to CSZ

July 2001-Tammuz/Av 5761

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	
1	10 Tammuz	2	11 Tammuz	3	12 Tammuz	4	Independence Day
							Office Closed
8	17 Tammuz	9	18 Tammuz	10	19 Tammuz	11	
		• 6:30 pm -	Va'ad Meeting				
15	24 Tammuz	16	25 Tammuz	17	26 Tammuz	18	
				• 7-8:30 pm -	Tisha B'Av and the Book of Lamentations class		
22	2 Av	23	3 Av	24	4 Av	25	
				• 6:30 pm -	Israeli Havurah		
				• 7-8:30 pm -	Tisha B'Av and the Book of Lamentations class		
29	Tisha B'Av	30	10 Av	31	11 Av	1	
		• 7 pm -	I/T Committee	• 7-8:30 pm -	Tisha B'Av and the Book of Lamentations class		

SEPTEMBER DEADLINE MONDAY, AUGUST 6, AT 5 PM

ARTICLES

Please submit your articles as a Word attachment file via email to: kschiller@igc.org. *No late submissions will be accepted.*

ADVERTISING

To place a display ad, contact Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@earthlink.net). To place a classified ad, call the office.

Please note that dates, times and locations sometimes get changed after the *Forward* is published. Call the office if you need updates.

	THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SHABBAT	
5 Tammuz	5	14 Tammuz	6	15 Tammuz	7	Shabbat Balak 16 Tammuz
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:15 pm - Candle Lighting • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Jonathan Funk and Steve Weitz Sermon by Lisa Ochs 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 pm - Torah Study • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Alan Gordon 	
20 Tammuz	12	21 Tammuz	13	Lag B'Omer 22 Tammuz	14	Shabbat Pinchas 23 Tammuz
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:12 pm - Candle Lighting • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel, Jeff Piade and Josh Shuster Lefkowitz Installation of officers Anniversary blessing for Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 pm - Torah Study • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Andy Fyne Drash by Marc Wernick • 3 pm - Gay Gezunt, Singing Havurah 	
27 Tammuz	19	28 Tammuz	20	29 Tammuz	21	Shabbat Mattot-Masei 1 Av
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30 pm - Dinner with the Membership Committee • 8:08 pm - Candle Lighting • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Batya Kalis 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 am - Torah Study • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Ora Prochovnick 	
UAHC Kallah - June 18-22						
5 Av	26	6 Av	27	7 Av	28	Shabbat Devarim 8 Av
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30 pm - Ritual Committee 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:03 pm - Candle Lighting • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Nicole Bloom and Kirsten Gustavson 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 am - Torah Study • 9:30 am - Baby Havurah • 10 am - Shabbat Services • 10:30 am - Tot Shabbat • 7 pm - Tisha B'Av Service 	
12 Av	2	13 Av	3	14 Av	4	Shabbat Chukat 15 Av
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:59 pm - Candle Lighting • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 am - Torah Study • 10 am - Shabbat Services 	
Tu B'Av						

East Bay Services

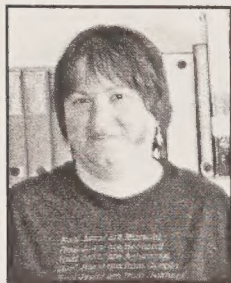
Friday, July 20, 8:15 pm

Susan Lubeck and Richard Weiner
3927 Canon Ave., Oakland
510/531-7660

East Bay Services

Friday, August 17, 7:15 pm

Vegetarian potluck, candle lighting and zemirot
Lauren Augusta and Hillary Zaid
5461 Kales Ave., Oakland
510/654-8907



This month we honor Karen Schiller. While many might not know Karen by sight, we all know of Karen by her contribution to the synagogue. She is the

chair of *The Jewish Gaily Forward* Newsletter Committee and has served as the co-chair for the High Holiday Usher Committee. She also helped the Finance Committee with their recent changeover to a new accounting system.

Outside of the synagogue, Karen consults with non-profit agencies in the area of accounting and finance. She has volunteered for the past 10 years as a board member at San Francisco Women Against Rape, helping to shape the transformation of this group from a small collectively-run organization with three part-time staff members to a mid-size, majority-women-of-color non-profit with 13 staff members.

Karen also brings a wealth of experience with community publications. She has been an editor of various feminist newspapers and journals, including *Plexus* and *The Jewish Women's Newsletter*. She lives with her three cats and a snake in Noe Valley.

Please join me in wishing Karen a Yasher Koach. We thank Karen for her continued and tireless hard work, dedication and leadership.

In the following interview, Karen shares her thoughts on the synagogue:

TGF: Karen, when did you join the synagogue?

Karen: I joined CSZ about five years ago. I had been coming to High Holiday services for years, and one year was really touched by Rabbi Kahn's sermon. I thought to myself, "I should become a part of this place." I had not been a tremendously spiritual person and thought that by joining the synagogue it would all come together – that I might find religion.

TGF: And did you?

Karen: Well, not yet. I am still exploring the religious side of CSZ. I really enjoyed Phyllis Mintzer's class, Prayerbook Hebrew. I figured that if I understood more of the language, the prayers would mean more. It was fun to hang out and

study with people of all backgrounds and comfort with Judaism in such a relaxed and supportive environment.

TGF: How did you get involved in the synagogue?

Karen: Batya Kaylis and Rose Katz hit me up to join the Newsletter Committee as soon as I signed up; I don't think the ink was dry on my membership application. I became involved with both the High Holiday Usher Committee and the Finance Committee because of Lea Salem, our synagogue administrator. Lea and I were chatting one day and she asked me what I did for a living. She put two and two together and asked me to help the synagogue in areas that were familiar to me professionally.

TGF: What is your vision for the newsletter?

Karen: The newsletter should continue to be readable and enjoyable. We hope that the calendar will be posted on everyone's bulletin board or fridge.

We are one of the communication vehicles for the synagogue. So if you are a committee chair, planning an event for the shul or working on a synagogue

project, let the newsletter committee know what is up. If you don't know how to best express it, we can help.

TGF: What is your greatest source of satisfaction from volunteering at CSZ?

Karen: By working on the newsletter, you get to know a lot about what is going on at the synagogue. You work with the Va'ad and the staff; you learn what decisions are coming down and what's behind the articles that are being written. You learn who's in charge and how decisions are made. I feel as if I know a lot about what's going on.

Also, I am very proud of the praise that we receive for the newsletter from people across the country. The newsletter is the public face of CSZ, one of our most important marketing tools. I am glad to be part of the team, along with Judith Cohen, Marjorie Hilsenrad, Brian Jersky, Rose Katz, Joey Rozier, David Stein and everyone else who has worked on the committee over the years, as well as Kerri Schiff, our graphic designer. We have an amazing *esprit de corp* at the meetings.

continued on page 9

Are you inspired by Karen's involvement? Here are some highlights of the ways for you to share your talents and love with the community:

- **Don't Wait To Be Asked.** Anyone is welcome to join (almost) any committee, including Ritual. Check out the newsletter masthead on page 10 for a complete list of committees and then contact the chairpeople listed to volunteer your services.
- **Give Everyone a Big Hug.** Our Keshet (Connection) Committee needs members who are available to act as greeters at services. This is a great, time-limited way to contribute to our congregation - especially if you've wanted to get to know other congregants. New members especially welcome. Call Marianne Balin at 510/655-8969 to learn more.
- **Are you the Jewish Martha Stewart?** The Sha'ar Zahav Post-Yom Kippur Break Fast needs a new co-chair. Past co-chairs Deborah Udin and Jeff Sherman are certainly ready to advise and help, but fresh ideas and your flair are needed to coordinate this fabulous event. Contact Deborah at 415/ 334-0441, Deudin@aol.com.
- **Want to know synagogue happenings before your friends?** Sign up for the newly-created "Haimish Hotline." Volunteers for the Haimish Hotline will contact 5 - 10 synagogue members every month or two to let them know of upcoming events and programs and to encourage them to volunteer to help. Contact Dahlia Gross at 415/575-4961, CSZDahlia@yahoo.com to sign up.

If you have suggestions for a "Davener & Doer," please contact Marc Wernick (415/928-7883, mhwernick@aol.com).

July

August

- 2 Arno Crowe Rosenfeld
Alan Foss
Raphael Lubeck-Weiner
- 3 Noah Chasnoff
Virginia Donohue
AJ Turpen
- 4 Emma Pines-Schwartz
Leslie Weiniger
Debra Yates
- 5 Grant Stern
- 6 Charlotte Honigman-Smith
Roland Stern
- 7 Avery Fisher
Batya Kalis
- 8 Hannah Pines-Schwartz
Ben Schalit
Laura Trupin
- 9 Steven Elman
Carolyn Pines
- 10 Karen Rosen
- 12 Naomi Zingman-Daniels
- 13 Judith Holiber
Mina Ostro Bluethenthal
Deborah Udin
Jonathan Zimman
- 14 Joan Shalit
Steve Unger
- 15 Cheryl Price
- 16 Ann Aptaker
Riley Morgan
Kathleen Rosaria
Lois Scott
Samuel Walters
- 18 Gabriel Press-Becker
- 19 Yusri Abdul-Rauf
Geraldine Barr
Michael Schaffer
- 20 Mary Morgan
Maia Ross Trupin
Jeffrey Sherman
- 21 Emily Freeman
- 22 Ellen Litman
- 23 Ron Edelman
Nancy Meyer
Jacob Pannor-Watenpau
- 24 Michael Sarid
- 26 Benjamin Achtenberg
Alan Ferrara
- 27 Laura Steele
David Wish
- 28 Susan Schwartz
- 30 Prudence Carter

- 1 Molly Hornby-Finch
- 2 Leah Halperin
Mark McCormick
- 3 Mark Troy
- 4 Jonathan Funk
- 5 Ray Bernstein
Ron Miguel
- 7 Gail Ludwig
Alan Michels
Bob Nacamulli
- 8 Cheryl Sena
- 9 Ali Cannon
Allan Gold
Geoff Skigen
- 11 Peter Jacobs
Claudia Rosenbaum
- 12 Frank Yellin
- 13 Jonah Levy
Lonnie Weiss
- 14 Alex Davido
Carole Migden
- 15 Ellen Jacobs
- 16 Cheryl Bryan
William Jones
Yavn'ela Oline
- 17 Myles Siltan
- 19 Dan Bellm
Paul Cohen
Elizabeth Schaffer
Elizabeth Wilson
- 20 Joey Rozier
Stacey Shuster
Jonathan Zingman
- 24 Joshua Shuster-Lefkowitz
- 25 Noah Nacamulli
Donna Rae Palmer
- 26 Robert Cohen
Shira Zingman-Daniels
- 27 Michael Chertok
Kirsten Gustavson
Charlotte Halloran-Couch
Jesse Tanenbaum
- 28 Micah Barth-Rogers
- 29 Ann Daniels
Joshua Levy
- 30 Joseph Hample

Karen Schiller *continued from page 8*

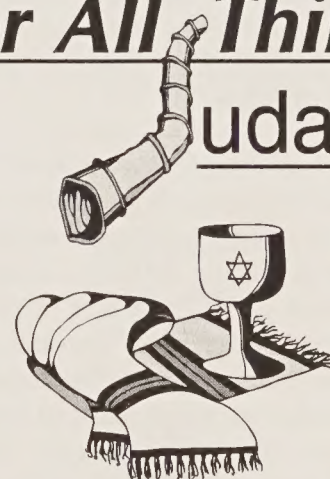
We work hard, but we have a good time; we enjoy the process of editing - discussing semi-colons, arm-wrestling over Yiddish transliterations... During our monthly meetings, we joke, we dish and we work.

TGF: *What words of advice would you give to people who want to become more active in the synagogue but are not sure what the first step is?*

Karen: Well, how are your writing and editing skills? Seriously, find something that you want to do, then pick up the phone or send an email. People at Sha'ar Zahav are really accessible. You'll be amazed at how much your work will be appreciated; people here often go out of their way to say "thank you."

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Rabbi's Column

continued from page 2

What a significant lesson! We are commanded to preserve the honor even of the person who is abhorrent to us, who behaves in a manner which infuriates us. Why? Simply because that person also is created in God's image and the mitzvah of kavod ha-b'riyot (honor to all creations) applies to him or her as well.

It isn't difficult to honor those whom we love or with whom we agree. It is a challenge, however, to honor those whom we can't stand or with whom we disagree strongly. This challenge is important to us in our personal lives and in the national life of the people of Israel both here and in the State of Israel. It is a particularly worthwhile challenge to bear in mind as we enter into the period of the Three Weeks leading to Tisha B'Av, the mourning of the destruction of the Temple, which tradition teaches was destroyed because of unwarranted hatred of one Jew toward another.

It is a tenuous time for us as Jews; a vicious time on the world scene and we are trying to navigate through wicked prophets and talking donkeys. It is a time for deep contemplation; it is a partial mourning period. For me, it was the first time in my rabbinic career that I advised a congregant not to send her teenage daughter to Israel this summer. This was a most difficult choice. May we pray for peace and the end to all this killing. May the summer which ends with Elul, our season of renewal, be one of healing!

Sponsor an Oneg Shabbat!

Sponsoring the oneg Shabbat following services is a lovely way to commemorate a special occasion. Onegs can be sponsored in honor of a simcha, as a tribute to the memory of a loved one or "just because." The cost is \$80-\$120 and we have a number of available dates in the coming months. Please call the CSZ office if you would like to inquire about sponsoring an oneg Shabbat on a specific date or would like more information.

Synagogue Information

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street
415/861-6932 (voice); 415/861-6081 (fax)
Programming office, 415/575-4961
Education office, 415/575-4962
office@shaarzahav.org (email)
http://www.shaarzahav.org (web)

CSZ Staff:

Rabbi, Camille Shira Angel
- rabbiangel@shaarzahav.org
Administrator, Lea Salem
- lsalem@shaarzahav.org
Program Director, Dahlia Gross
- cszdahlia@yahoo.com
Director of Children's Education
Riqi Kosovske
- educator@shaarzahav.org
Kadimah Head Teacher,
- Phyllis Mintzer
Administrative Assistant,
Melanie Kushnir
- mkushnir@shaarzahav.org
Jewish Family Educator,
Jeni Markowitz
- familyeducator@shaarzahav.org

Officers:

President, Lisa Katz
(415/821-7746),
- llkatz1@juno.org or
- president@shaarzahav.org
Vice President, Arthur Slepian
Vice President, Jeffrey Sherman
Treasurer, James Carlson
Recorder, Ray Bernstein

Va'ad (Board) Members:

David Gellman (ex officio)
Ben Bank
Howard Herman
Howard Steiermann
Nancy Kates
Rose Katz
Laura Lowe
Ron Miguel
Drew Parker-Rose
Ami Zusman

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain her or his number from the synagogue office.

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

Committee Chairs:

Adult Education, Ron Edelman and Prudence Carter
Archives, open
Baby Havurah, open
Bequests and Donations, Richard Inlander
Bikkur Cholim, Avraham Giannini, Eileen Levy, Rachel Maclachlan, Deborah Udin
Book Group, Mark Mackler
Building and Grounds, Beth Sousa and Daphne Stuart
Bylaws, Richard Inlander
Children's Education Board, Liz Schaffer
Cemetery, Richard Inlander
Dor Rishon Brotherhood, open
Dues Liaison, James Carlson, Tiela Chalmers, Lisa Katz, Drew Parker-Rose, Mike Zimmerman
East Bay Havurah, Ida Kuluk and Larry Wexler
Endowment Fund, Diana Buchbinder
Finance, James Carlson
Fine Arts, Barbara Cymrot
Fundraising, Arthur Slepian
Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin
Israel Havurah, Ron Lezell and Michal Goralsky
La'atid, open
Leadership Development, Paul Cohen
Library, Bernard Schertzer
Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold
Membership, Marianne Balin
Membership Outreach, Tony Harris
Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign, Ellie Cohen
Newsletter, Karen Schiller
- kschiller@igc.org
Past Presidents Council, David Stein
Personnel, Lyssa Friedman
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky and Marc Wernick
Rabbi Liaison, Allan Gold
Ritual, Nicole Bloom
- bloomn@netscape.net
Social Action, Laura Lowe
Toddler/Pre-school Havurah, Deena Lahn
UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin
UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel Chesir
WCGLBJO Liaison, David Gellman
Web and I.T., Drew Parker-Rose
Women's Havurah, open

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.

Contributions

in Honor of the Becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah of

Avraham Giannini

Allan Berenstein.
Robert K. Tat.
Batya Kalis.
Laura Lowe.
Rena Frantz and
Ora Prochovnick.
Lyssa Friedman and
Daphne Stuart.
Paul Cohen and
Bob Gutterman.
Ami Zusman.
Marc Lipschutz.
Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs.
Mike Rankin.

Clarissa Kripke

Allan Berenstein.
Jeff Piade.
Paul Cohen and
Bob Gutterman.
Mike Rankin.
Batya Kalis.
Laura Lowe.
Rena Frantz and Ora
Prochovnick.
Lyssa Friedman and
Daphne Stuart.
Ami Zusman.
Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs.
Marc Lipschutz.

Prudence Carter

Marianne Balin, Annie
and Nora Downs.
Mike Rankin.
Batya Kalis.
Rena Frantz and
Ora Prochovnick.
Lyssa Friedman and
Daphne Stuart.
Laura Lowe.
Paul Cohen and
Bob Gutterman.
Ami Zusman.
Marc Lipschutz.
Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs.

Laura Lowe

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Rena Frantz and
Ora Prochovnick.
Lyssa Friedman and
Daphne Stuart.
Ami Zusman.
Paul Cohen and Bob
Gutterman.
Marc Lipschutz.
Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs.
Allan Berenstein.

Bruce Kapsack

Batya Kalis.
Rena Frantz and
Ora Prochovnick.
Lyssa Friedman and
Daphne Stuart.
Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman.
Ami Zusman.
Marc Lipschutz.
Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs.
Laura Lowe.
Mike Rankin.

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New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

**Daryl Anne Goldman
Susan Leff and Brad Post**

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

Kol Yad Campaign

Rabbi Camille Shira Angel
and Karen Segal.
Ben Bank and Brian Jersky.
Allan Berenstein.
Nicole Bloom.
James Carlson.
Prudence Carter.
Tiela Chalmers.
Daniel Chesir.
Paul Cohen and
Bob Gutterman.
Kelly Cytron.
Lele Diamond and
Rachel Field.
Lynn Eden and
Ruth Schoenbach.
Pamela Erwin.
Manny Fishman and
Leslie Kane.
Jeff Friedman.
Lyssa Friedman and
Daphne Stuart.
Jon Funk.
Andy Fyne.
David Gellman.
Avraham Giannini.
David Gorbet and
Jennifer Woods.
Sara Haber and
Beth Sousa.
Joe Hample.
Richard Hazel.
Jo Hirschmann.
Judith Holiber.
Geri Kahn.
Rose Katz.

Lisa Katz.
Sherie Koshover.
Clarissa Kripke and
Gail Ludwig.
Melanie Kushnir
and Alex Davido.
Rod Leslie.
Ron Lezell.
Marc Lipschutz.
Gerry Llamado.
Laura Lowe.
Lisa Ochs.
Drew Parker-Rose.
Carolyn Pines and
Judy Schwartz.
Jerry Rosenstein.
Michael Sarid.
Sharyn Saslafskey.
Karen Schiller.
Susan Shalit.
Jeff Sherman.
Arthur Slepian.
Howard Steiermann.
Deborah Udin and Lucy
Cefalu.
Susan Unger.
Darah Wallsten.
Randy Weiss and Craig Shear.
Larry Wexler.
Elizabeth Wilson.
Jake Wirtschafter.
Nina Wouk and Jessie
Ap'neva.
Mike Zimmerman.
Ami Zusman.

Contributions

General Fund

Patricia Lin, in appreciation of Jeanette Nichols, Phyllis Mintzer and Barbara Cymrot for organizing the Art Shabbaton.

Avraham Giannini, in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz.

Jeff Sherman, in memory of Philip and Reva Sherman.

Avraham Giannini, in memory of Kim Carlson.

Brian Jersky, in memory of Paul Jersky and Jean Skudowitz.

Christopher Brown.

Jeff Sherman, in memory of Andrew West.

Dana Rees, with prayers for the healing of Melverne Klitenic.

Allan Berenstein, in honor of the anniversary of Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs.

Laura Lowe, with a mazel tov to Lisa Katz as our incoming president.

Daniel Chesir and Stephen Rowniak, in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz.

Donald Berger, in memory of Rose Berger.

Frank Yellin.

Jeff Sherman, in memory of Daniel Fiduccia and Barbara Faye Waxman Fiduccia.

Laura Lowe, with thanks to David Gellman for all his work as CSZ president.

Laura Lowe, in appreciation of Allan Berenstein for his years of service as Social Action co-chair.

Laura Lowe, in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz.

Pat Smith, in memory of Nanci Stern.

Allan Berenstein, in honor of Sharyn Saslasky's new position as Director of Marketing and Communications for the SFJCC.

Paul and Louise Atterdigg, in appreciation of Chuck Russell and Brian Duckworth.

Philippa Newfield, in honor of the wedding of Emily Newfield and Rachael Riley.

Rabbi Yoel Kahn, in memory of Allan Kahn.

Stephanie Hannaford, in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz.

Stephen Weiner, in memory of Benjamin Weiner.

Adult Education Fund

Avraham Giannini.

AIDS Fund

Jennifer Hirsch, in memory of John Atterdigg.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Mark Feldman.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Bob Mackey.

Bikkur Cholim Fund

Judy Macks, with deep appreciation to Allan Berenstein and Bikkur Cholim Committee for helping to sustain her family these past months with meals, support and prayers.

Eli Weinstein, in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz.

Children's Education Fund

Marianne Balin, Annie and Nora Downs, in honor of the birth of Eliana Tali Chalmers Frank.

Ami Zusman, in honor of the birth of Eliana Tali Chalmers Frank.

Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart, in honor of Aaron Buchbinder's graduation from Midrasha and Sacred Heart and his acceptance to UC Santa Cruz.

Manny Fishman and Leslie Kane, in appreciation of Michael Schaffer.

Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart, in honor of Greer Hauptman's graduation from Midrasha and French American and her acceptance to Brandeis University.

Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart, in honor of the birth of Itai Bojdak-Yates.

Patricia Lin, in honor of the birth of Eliana Tali Chalmers Frank.

Lele Diamond and Rachel Field, in memory of Paul G. Sullivan.

Manny Fishman and Leslie Kane, with prayers for a refu'ah shlema for Dahlia Gross.

Library Fund

Mark Mackler, in honor of Bob Katz's 50th birthday.

Eli Weinstein, in memory of Howard Mackler.

Social Action Fund

Stacey Hart, in honor of the engagement of Jo Hirschmann and Elizabeth Wilson.

Ami Zusman, in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz.

Ami Zusman, in honor of Allan Berenstein and Laura Lowe for their social justice work.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Duff Kreitzberg.

Eli Weinstein, to support CSZ efforts at Sukkot in April.

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Mirtha Beal.

Rabbi Angel's Discretionary Fund

Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart, in honor of the wedding of Mike Bromberg and Ken Repp.

Allan Berenstein, in honor of Myrtle Wexler on the occasion of her bat mitzvah.

Patricia Lin, in honor of Rosyland and Bob Bauer.

George and Phyllis Mintzer, in memory of Rose Mintzer.

Ellie Cohen and Miki Goralsky, in memory of John Atterdigg.

Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign

Batya Kalis, in memory of Rose Jacobstein.

Allan Berenstein, in appreciation of Susan Unger.

Buz Bernstein, in memory of Agnes B. Schwartz.

Batya Kalis, in memory of Jerome Kalis.

Ellie Cohen and Miki Goralsky, with deepest appreciation to the wonderful members of the Gay iz Mir Klezmer Band.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact the synagogue office.

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How To Get To And From Sha'ar Zahav Without Driving (Yourself Crazy!)

by Lisa Ochs

As many of you know, our synagogue is located in what might be called a spatially-challenged neighborhood. Parking is tight, taxis are elusive and you may sometimes wish you could just click your ruby slippers together and magically zoom from home to CSZ and back. Although I can't solve all your transportation woes, I hope to offer you some alternatives and perhaps make your Friday evening and Saturday morning synagogue treks a little easier and less stressful.

Public Transit

Sha'ar Zahav is located at the crossroads of many BART and MUNI lines. Bicycles can be taken on BART as long as they are not blocking entrances. We are within easy walking distance of the 16th Street Mission BART Station, the Castro Street MUNI Station, the

Church Street MUNI Station, the F-Market Streetcar and many bus lines, including the 33-Stanyan and 22-Fillmore. The 22-Fillmore is particularly convenient: it drops you off right across 16th Street from the synagogue and it runs approximately every ten minutes. If you want information on how to use MUNI to get to synagogue, call 673-MUNI. Give the operator your starting point and your destination and s/he will tell you the easiest route to travel. The office has a MUNI map and can also give you public transit directions. If you take BART to Friday evening services, you can arrange to walk back to the station with others after services.

Taxis

Taxis are notoriously difficult to obtain in San Francisco on Friday evenings. However, one of the few places in the city where they can be easily hailed is on Castro Street, several blocks west of the synagogue. If a group of members would like to walk up to Castro Street together, you will certainly find a cruising taxi eager to whisk you away

(as well as cruising humans, also eager to whisk you away).

Carpooling

If you would like to arrange a carpool and want names and phone numbers of other synagogue members who live in your neighborhood, please call Lea or Melanie at the synagogue office and they will be very happy to put you in touch.

Bikes, Scooters, Motorcycles

These are other ways people manage to get around the crowded Mission. Parking for two-wheeled vehicles is relatively easy and you may even find an extra helmet in the CSZ lost and found!

If worse comes to worst and you simply cannot drive, bike, scoot, skateboard, MUNI, BART, taxi or carpool to services, don't despair! Call the office and the staff will do their best to get you a ride. And it can't hurt to invest in a pair of ruby slippers. If they don't get you to synagogue, they may win you a prize at Purim.

Naches

To **Eileen Levy** on her appointment as Director of the School of Social Work at San Francisco State University.

To **Gail Ludwig** on her new position as Regional Director of Planned Giving for Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

To **Sharyn Saslafsky** on her new position as Director of Marketing and Communications at the San Francisco Jewish Community Center.

To **Katye Gulley** on graduating from Bard College with honors, co-president of her class.

To **Avraham Giannini, Prudence Carter, Laura Lowe, Clarissa Kripke and Bruce Kapsack** on their becoming B'nei Mitzvah.

To **Nicole Bloom** on her acceptance to a clinical pastoral education residency at Alta Bates Hospital.

To **David Stein** on his new position as Executive Director of Beth Israel-Judeah.

To **Shelley M. Samuels and Robin A. Dubner** on their 10th anniversary.

To **Larry Kaplun** on his new position as Street Outreach Counselor at Larkin Street Youth Center.

To **Riqi Kosovske** on being accepted to Rabbinical school.

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July Anniversaries

- 1 Roslyn Fuerman and Fern Leaf
- 4 Dvora Honigstein and Mary Sue Philp
Richard Meyerson and Duane Bryant
- 8 Martin Spector and Alan Samuels
- 10 Elizabeth Katz and Lee Ann Thompson
- 12 Allan Gold and Alan Ferrara
- 25 Daniel Chesir and Stephan Rowniak
Ron and Ruth Miguel
- 27 David Couch and Nancy Halloran

August Anniversaries

- 7 Judith Wolfe and Jenny Hughes
- 12 Valerie Curtis and Yavn'ela Oline
- 15 Jonathan Funk and John Arnold
- 17 Wayne Bender and Kaz Kirishima
- 20 Marsha Blachman and Amy Gentile
- 25 Dey and Antoinette Rose
- 27 Steven Elman and Tom Holt
- 31 Nicole Bloom and Sue Swigart

Join the Newsletter Committee

Contact

**Karen Schiller at
KSchiller@igc.org
to find out how!**

Members' Yahrzeits

JULY

- 1 Rachel Mailman
- 4 Ed Gabay
- 6 David Custead
- 9 Alexander Louis Konski
- 17 Steven P. Berman
- 25 Seth Miller
- 30 Phil Resnick

AUGUST

- 2 David Kotch
- 4 Jordan Berger
- 5 Ernie Weinstein
- 6 Jay Platt
- 7 Mark Landsberger
- 16 Peter Rosenfeld
- 18 Elliot Schneck
- 23 Bill Schlichter
- 28 Jay Feinstein

Oneg & Flower Sponsorship

These generous people sponsored the Oneg Shabbat and/or flowers in recent weeks:

5/25 Oneg by **Phillipa Newfield and Phillip Gordon** in honor of Emily Newfield and Rachael Reily's wedding.

Flowers by friends of **Emily Newfield and Rachael Reily** in honor of their wedding.

6/1 Oneg by **Diana Buchbinder, Joyce Garay, Trudi Chamoff Hauptman and Stephen Hauptman** in honor of the high school graduation of Aaron Buchbinder and Greer Hauptman.

Flowers by **Fran Newman** in honor of Rose Mallia's entrance into the covenant.

6/9 Flowers by **Allan Berenstein** in honor of Laura Lowe's becoming Bat Mitzvah.

6/15 - Oneg by **Bob Gutterman and Paul Cohen**, in memory of Julie Gutterman.

6/22 - Oneg by **Jerry Rosenstein**, in memory of his family.

Condolences

James Carlson on the death of his nephew, Kim Carlson.

David Shneer on the death of his grandmother, Lottie Shneer.

Jim Edlin on the death of his aunt, Anita B. Edlin.

AJ Turpen on the death of his stepfather, Harold Little.

Classifieds

LOOKING FOR AN "UNCLE MAX"
Lesbian mom seeks Jewish childless male role model for my little boy, almost 4. If you desire adventure, exploration and the gift of a child's adoration, please call (415) 824-4266.

GOING AWAY?

Can you help my parents and my brother find a two-bedroom house or apartment to stay in, during their 2 week visit to SF? They are very responsible, willing to pay rent and are seeking an alternative to a hotel. Dates flexible. Please contact Lea Salem in the CSZ office at lsalem@shaarzahav.org or 861-6932.

WE NEED AN OCCASIONAL DOG/HOUSE SITTER:

Sweet young dog and her not so young dad have a problem. I like to travel. She likes staying at home. We live in a great condo around the corner from CSZ. (She love to stop and visit with Mel, Dahlia and Lea.) If interested, please contact Allan Berenstein (415) 863-8033.

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PSYCHOTHERAPY:

Life transition, grief and loss, HIV/AIDS, substance use, mood disorder, dot-com angst. Jody Reiss, LCSW (#LCS15289), 415-401-9482.

SEEKING SUMMER HOUSE-SIT:

Former CSZ member and Bat Mitzvah, now in college, is seeking house-sitting or sublet for the summer. Care for your plants and dogs, available from mid-June to mid-September. Contact via email to drbillinkoff@amherst.edu